

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

elyumc.elymn@gmail.com

218-365-3355

www.elyumc.org

Parish News

November 18, 2022

Setting Up Christmas Decorations

We will set up Christmas decorations on Sunday, December 20th, immediately following worship.

We'll join together in a light lunch once the decorations are in place. Soup and cornbread is already being provided. Other participants are asked to fill in with other side dishes to complete the potluck type lunch.

Giving Tree Opportunity

We are participating in the Ely Community Resource Giving Tree Gift Drive again this year.

Tags will be on the table in the back of the church this Sunday and on the small Christmas tree in weeks to follow.

Tags list each particular gift. Wrapped gifts are to be returned to the church by Monday, December 5. Please put your name on the list on the table when taking a tag.

A Note from Pastor Craig

Thanksgiving is November 24, a week from yesterday. This Sunday in worship we will sing Thanksgiving hymns and hear Thanksgiving Scripture lessons read.

Since we don't have a Thanksgiving service, I want to comment briefly on Thanksgiving 2022, because only three days later we'll be into Advent where our hearts and minds turn toward the birth of Jesus Christ.

As I write these words, I am reflecting back to Thanksgiving 2020; the Thanksgiving smack dab in the heart of the first year of the pandemic and during a huge spike of infections and deaths. And we were coming off a contested election. Can you put yourself back in that moment?

There were warnings from medical experts and persons in the health-care field about limiting our gatherings. I don't recall now if the airlines were transporting passengers or not, but there was a lot of free-floating anxiety in families and communities. As I remember the virus had run through several Ely area deer camps resulting in several fatalities.

I had mostly recovered from my early October Covid-19 infection. But I wasn't traveling anywhere and my mood was subdued. I remember posting a Thanksgiving video meditation on our church Facebook account from my bedroom in the parsonage. Someone later commented to me how sad and subdued I looked and sounded. This was despite my theme being the prophet Habakkuk's hopeful message during the Jewish national crisis 400 years before the birth of Christ. "Though the fig tree does not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." (From Habakkuk 3:17-18)

Well, here we are two years later; while the pandemic isn't conclusively over, families who choose can safely sit around the Thanksgiving table with loved ones. And whether the candidates for office we voted for won or lost, reporting suggests this was a fair election - the election process "worked." In this light I wish you a blessed Thanksgiving!

Pastor Craig

United Methodist Women Christmas Luncheon

The Ely UMW will be having our annual Christmas Luncheon at the Grand Ely Lodge on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. There is no advanced payment required. We'll each order off the menu and pay our individual bills.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the church through December 4 so that we can let the GEL know ahead of time to arrange for staffing and set-up. Anyone wanting to attend but not able to sign up should call/text Jeanne Tomlinson at 218-235-8470.

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary for Christmas

Poinsettia orders are due several weeks earlier this year than they typically have been. Workforce shortages and availability are the underlying causes, according to Ely Flower and Seed.

There is a sign-up sheet in the rear of the sanctuary where you can list your name, how many you are ordering, and who you wish it to be in memory of.

There is an envelope with the list, where you may put your payment, either in check or cash. You may also mail it to the church or drop it through the mail slot. The price is \$15.00 per plant.

You may continue to sign up to purchase poinsettias through December 5th.

We'll have a sheet in the bulletin and Parish News listing the names of loved ones you've remembered by purchasing a plant.

Minnesota Annual Conference will have a new Bishop January 1, 2023

Bishop Lanette Plambeck Assigned to Dakotas-Minnesota Area. She was the assistant to the Bishop of the Iowa Annual Conference as well as the director of the clergy and leadership excellence in Iowa at the time of her election.

She has wide and extensive experience in a variety of settings. You can find more information here: <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-x-assigned-to-the-dakotas-minnesota-area-17116187>

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

November 18, 2022

This is a guide for prayer this week. The *Prayer Wall* is a reminder of those needing prayers during devotional times. Thank you for dedicating some of your personal prayer time to lift up these requests.



James 5: 15-16 (NIV)

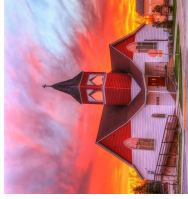
*“And the prayer offered in faith
will make the sick person well; the
Lord will raise him (or her) up....
The prayer of the righteous is
powerful and effective.”*

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Sydney** – Anna Urbas’s roommate, Sydney, tore her ACL in her first season basketball game & needs surgery.
- **Vicki Podominick**– Vicki slipped on the ice while working and hurt her knee and is on crutches. Pray for quick healing.
- **Marja Viikinsalo family & friends** – Marja passed away. Pray for comfort and peace for family and friends.
- **Ropey** – Margie Olson’s brother, Ropey, is on hospice care and is in the hospital. Pray for comfort.
- **Lisa** – Butch Diesslin’s sister, Lisa, is had replacement ankle surgery. Pray for successful surgery and good recovery.
- **Sheryl Jarrs** – Linda Hane’s friend, Sheryl, fell and broke 3 ribs. Pray for quick healing.
- **Angela Campbell** – Angela had eye surgery last week. Pray for a successful outcome.
- **Delene & family & friends** – Judy Bonderson’s sister-in-law, Delene, just lost her eldest son. Pray for comfort and peace.
- **Steve & Glenda Harbaugh** – Glenda’s husband, Steve, is battling an unusually fast stage 4 prostate cancer which has already spread to bone and lymph nodes. He has a port inserted for chemo treatments. Pray for effective treatments.
- **Peggy Koshak** – Paula Mattila’s sister, Peggy, fell and hurt her shoulder and is still having trouble breathing.
- **Lily Tedrick** – Lily broke her thumb making it hard to compete in Swimming. Pray for her comfort and quick healing.
- **Jack Hautala’s family & friends** – Bill Hane’s brother-in-law, Jack, passed away. Prayers of comfort for family and friends.
- **Isaac** – Pray for Isaac and his mom and dad. Isaac is 16 and struggling with everyday life. He is receiving psychiatric help. Isaac’s parents are close friends of Dale & Connie Peterson.
- **Red Nied** – **Update: Nancy Markwardt’s brother is not doing well & the next step is hospice care.** Pray for comfort & peace.
- **Dave & Kris** – Lisa Porthan’s dad, Dave, is struggling with his Parkinson’s disease & is falling frequently & depressed. Her mom, Kris, is exhausted trying to care for him at home. It’s heartbreaking watching them struggling.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.
- **All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus and the Delta & Omicron variants**

We include all the United Methodist Churches and Pastors, both active and retired, in our MN UMC Annual Conference as we work in extraordinary ways to keep our congregations and communities free from infection by the COVID-19 virus.

Prayer requests are compiled from our church prayer chain, from our Sunday morning church congregation using the prayer request forms located in the pew welcome pads, and the North Star District Prayer List. Prayer requests will remain on the Prayer Wall through four weeks unless removed earlier because the prayer is known to be no longer necessary.



December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:00 PM Choir Practice	2	3
4 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School <i>Holy Communion</i>	5	6	7 12:00 Noon UMW Luncheon at the GEL 2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	8 6:00 PM Choir Practice 5:00 PM Visioning Zoom Committee Mtg	9	10
11 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School	12	13 9:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association	14 2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Church Conference & Confirmation Class followed by Administrative Council	15 6:00 PM Choir Practice	16	17
18 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School	19	20	21 2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	22 6:00 PM Choir Practice	23	24 5:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service
25 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School Christmas Day	26	27	28 NO Zoom Bible Study	29 6:00 PM Choir Practice	30	31